

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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FIRST REGULAR SESSION

ONE HUNDRED AND TENTH LEGISLATURE

Legislative Document

No. 1169

H. P. 981 House of Representatives, March 9, 1981
Referred to the Committee on Labor. Sent up for concurrence and ordered printed.

EDWIN H. PERT, Clerk

Presented by Representative Baker of Portland.

STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED AND EIGHTY-ONE

AN ACT to Encourage Decent Wages for Maine Workers Employed by Enterprises Obtaining Public Loans and Loan Guarantees.

Be it enacted by the People of the State of Maine, as follows:

10 MRSA § 752-A is enacted to read:

§ 752-A. Wage condition

The authority shall require, as a condition of any loan, guarantee or manner of financing, that the industry or enterprise developed or expanded by the use of the loan, guarantee or manner of financing provide a wage to its employees at least equal to the average weekly wage in the State as defined in Title 26, section 1043, subsection 5, paragraph A.

STATEMENT OF FACT

The State, through the Maine Guarantee Authority, employs some of its limited public funds through the technique of loans and loan guarantees to develop and expand Maine businesses with the ultimate purpose of the creation and retention of jobs for Maine workers. Since these funds are limited and since there is cost, or at least risk, to the public in terms both of loans and guarantees, it is important that this limited resource be targeted to have the maximum impact in terms of the creation not just of any jobs, particularly not low paying jobs, but rather, to

the development and expansion of businesses paying decent wages. The bill requires these industries or enterprises to provide an average weekly wage at least equal to the average weekly wage in the State, as determined annually on July 1st by the Maine Employment Security Commission.